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COUNTRY COOPERATION FRAMEWORKS AND RELATED MATTERS

EXTENSION OF THE FIRST COUNTRY COOPERATION FRAMEWORK FOR SEYCHELLES

Note by the Administrator

1. The current country cooperation framework (CCF) for Seychelles, covering the period 1997-1999, expires in December 1999. The first country review has not been scheduled yet as the Government of Seychelles agreed to review the whole CCF with the UNDP Resident Representative following the confirmation of net contributor country status by UNDP. The country review will provide inputs for the formulation of the next CCF.

2. The first CCF for Seychelles, as approved by the Executive Board, focused on capacity-building at the policy level to develop a coherent national framework and strategies for the country's development over the next 20 years. On this basis, the CCF was a catalyst for specific initiatives by the private and public sectors in areas relevant to the reduction of poverty, the protection of the environment and the advancement of women. UNDP's assistance was concentrated at the upstream level on analysis, formulation and implementation of policies and strategies for sustainable human resources development. UNDP's assistance was captured in a single programme support document to address the following: preparation of a national long-term perspective study, private sector development, social security reform and planning and management of technical assistance.

3. The major activities implemented so far under the CCF are the following: (a) the elaboration of the national long-term perspective study to allow the country to engage in broad-based discussions and consensus-building on the development objectives for the next 20 to 30 years; and (b) strengthening of private sector participation in economic development through the review of

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private sector policies and preparation of projects to be considered at the sectoral consultations (round-table meeting) scheduled for the year 2000.

4. At the last Tripartite Review Meeting, which coincided with the departure of the previous Resident Representative, the Government proposed that the CCF be reviewed with the new Resident Representative, as it would like to review the focus of the CCF and the activities outlined above. The country review will allow UNDP to discuss the modalities of setting up reimbursement such as the proposed locally reimbursable revolving TRAC, or alternative arrangements.

5. The extension of this CCF will make it possible to move forward with the implementation of the programme outlined above and to harmonize the programme cycles of UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA in Seychelles as from 2001 and to use the results of the country review for preparation of the next CCF.

6. The Administrator wishes to inform the Executive Board that he has approved the extension of the first country cooperation framework for Seychelles for a period of one year, beginning on 1 January 2000.